

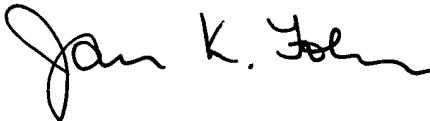
REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that dependent Claims 2, 7, and 13 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if amended into independent form. In response, Applicants have added the allowable subject matter of dependent Claim 2 into independent Claim 1; have added the allowable subject matter of dependent Claim 7 into independent Claim 5; and have added the allowable subject matter of dependent Claim 13 into independent Claim 12. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request an indication of the allowance of independent Claims 1, 5 and 12 and associated dependent Claims 3, 4, 6, 8-11, and 14-20.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the claimed invention. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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December 27, 2004
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